OCIL 17251

NOV 29 1921

THE BRAND OF COURAGE

Photoplay in two reels

Story and scenario by George H. Plympton

Directed by Robert Hill

Author of the photoplay (under Section 62) Universal Film Mfg. Co. Inc. of the U. S.

©CIL 17251 "THE BRAND OF COURAGE"

Two Reel Western Drama.

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Into the little mining town of Bonanza rides, for its weekly visit, the infamous "Law and Orders", a band supposed to enfore what little law there is, for which it is paid by the miners and the townspeople. It is strongly suspected, though, that this band is responsible for much of the lawlessness in the section; but there are none fearless enough to make this statement. At the head of the band is Burke.

He and the others go to the O.K. restaurant for a meal. This is run by Mary Dunn, who supports her widowed mother. Burke demands a payment from her for his protection. She says she has no money. Burke says he will take a kiss instead. He is trying to get it when Tom McNally arrives. Tom is a poor young miner who has sunk his last grubstake into a worthless mine which he calls THE FORLORN HOPE. Tom is very superstitious and when he falls over a black cat before entering the O.K. he knows there is trouble ahead for somebody. He enters and separates Mary and Burke. An altercation at the table leads to a fight, after which Tom throws Burke out of the place. Burke warns Tom to leave town.

Roused from his usual indifference by his clash with Burke, as well as by Mary's sympathy and interest, Tom does some heavy thinking. The result is that he interviews several mine owners and gets a promise from them to aid him if he can show that Burke is really the head of the lawless gang. Mary also promises to help him.

Tom strikes it rich, with the result that Burke calls for a share of it. Tom refuses to pay and Burke at once sets about running him off. An attack is made on Tom's mine from the front, while Burke and others dig into the adjoining claim to undermine Tom and blow him up. Tom signals to Mary by firing a shot at the bell over the restaurant, and the girl rides for help.

The explosion takes place, but it only blows out the retaining wall between the two mines. Burke is cut off by falling dirt. Tom drops through the hole on top of him and the two men fight in the smoke filled tunnel. Mary arrives with a posse of mine owners. Burke's men at the shaft entrance are surrounded and captured. Tom drags Burke out. He shows the mine owners where Burke has hidden the dust and other things he has stolen. Then he tells Burke that the Forlorn Hope is as hopeless as ever, for he merely borrowed the nuggets to make a showing and to lure Burke into this very trap.

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